New York, we want to hear from YOU.

In Spring 2021, we heard from 1,070 New Yorkers, groups, and elected officials on the climate, environmental, and health issues that impact their communities and neighborhoods.

This public comment period, opened from February to April, was the first step of the Environmental Justice for All Report to identify environmentally-burdened and underinvested communities and lay the foundation for the Environmental Justice Plan for the City of New York. It is critical that the issues covered in the Environmental Justice for All Report are informed by the priorities of New Yorkers living in frontline communities, so we started this work by hearing from you directly.

Here is a summary of what we heard...

For general inquiries and ideas on how we can build a just and equitable city, you can email us at ej@climate.nyc.gov.
New Yorkers we have heard from...

1,031 survey responses
23 emails
11 letters
4 voicemails

Top environmental, climate, and health concerns for New Yorkers

Top 3 environmental concerns city wide:
- Garbage
- Access to parks and green space
- Noise

Top 3 environmental concerns in EJ areas:
- Access to healthy food
- Poor indoor air quality
- Pests

Top climate hazard neighborhood is least equipped to handle, city wide:
- Flooding from heavy rains

Top climate hazard in EJ areas:
- Cold snaps

Comments from Environmental Justice (EJ) Areas

Environmental Justice (EJ) 68%
Non EJ areas 16%
Potential EJ areas 16%

From All Five Boroughs

Race & Ethnicity

ASIAN BLACK WHITE HISPANIC NATIVE AMERICAN MIXED

BRONX BROOKLYN MANHATTAN QUEENS STATEN ISLAND

EJ Comments Participants
NYC Population

EJ Comments Participants
NYC Population
How New York City can work better for New Yorkers...

53% of respondents don’t think there is adequate notice of public meetings for city projects in their neighborhood.

Ways the city can better include communities in decision making:

1. Make outreach more inclusive and meet people where they are.
2. Listen to community members and acknowledge efforts they make.
3. Be specific when asking for feedback and what weight their input will have.

We want to hear from YOU.

Next steps:

- The draft scope of the EJ report is coming out this summer!
- Participate in the next comment period
- Sign up for updates at nyc.gov/ejstudy

To ensure that New Yorkers will continue to be part of developing the Environmental Justice for All Report and Plan — the NYC Environmental Justice Advisory Board, the Mayor’s Office of Climate and Sustainability, will redouble our efforts to reach more New Yorkers in frontline communities. We will bake public engagement into every phase of this work.

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